IV- CALLING ATTENTION TO THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A BAD REGULATOR NEAR UPPER ANICUT AND THE CONSEQUENT CONCERN CAUSED TO THE AGRICULTURISTS OF THANJAVUR DISTRICT

* THIRU G. SWAMINATHAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to call the attention of the Hon. the Minister for Public Works to a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the proposed construction of a bed regulator near Upper Anicut by the State and the consequent concern caused to the agriculturists of Thanjavur district for fear of diminution of irrigation facilities in their area.

THE HON. THIRU S. J. SADIQ PASHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there were unprecedented heavy floods in the Cauvery and the Coleroon in July 1961. The Government had to spend Rs. 2 crores for breach closing and restoration works alone. Besides this amount, Government had also to give cash relief to the families rendered homeless and run gruel and relief centres at several places. There were also extensive damages to crops. With a view to investigating long-term measures for mitigating such heavy floods, the Government appointed a Special Officer in the grade of a Superintending Engineer. The Special Officer submitted his report in July 1962. After examining the report, the Government approved, among others, the proposal for the construction of a barrage across the Cauvery at Upper Anicut. The Chief Engineer (Irrigation) accordingly submitted a project report for the construction of a barrage across the Cauvery River at Upper Anicut at an estimated cost of Rs. 212 lakhs for inclusion in the Fourth Five-Year Plan of Tamil Nadu under Drainage and Flood Relief Schemes. The Project Report has been forwarded to the Central Water and Power Commission for inclusion of the scheme in the Fourth Five-Year Plan. The proposed barrage is, purely, a flood regulatory measure to handle the floods in the Cauvery, and thereby protect the existing irrigation systems. There will be no diminution of irrigation facilities in Thanjavur district on account of the construction of the proposed barrage.

V. GOVERNMENT MOTION.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 23 (1) OF THE COUNCIL RULES.

THE HON. THIRU K. ANBAZHAGAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move—

"That rule 23(1) of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Council Rules be suspended and this House do resolve to transact Government business on Saturday, the 23rd October 1971."

திரு. கே. ராஜாராம்: தலைவர் அவர்களே, உத்தியோகப் பற்றற்ற அங்கதினர்களின் தீர்மானத்திற்கென்று வாரத்தில் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டது ஒரு நாள். கடந்த 5, 6 மாத காலமாகவே உபயோகத்துக்கு வராமலே போய்விட்டது. தீர்மானங்களும்